

PATENT
10/540988

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 JUN 2005
Docket No.: HOFMANN-5

In re Application of:)	
)	
FRANK HOFMANN)	
)	
Int. Appl. No.: PCT/EP2003/014738)	
)	
Int. Filing Date: December 22, 2003)	
)	
For: SEWER PIPE)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Express Mail mailing label number: **EV 626144618 US**

Date of Deposit: **June 28, 2005**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450".

ANTONELLA FUSILLO

[Name of person mailing paper or fee]


[Signature]

S I R:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant wishes to call the attention of attention of the Examiner to the references listed on enclosed form PTO-1449 which were cited in the International Search Report issued by the European Patent Office with regard to the corresponding International patent application No. PCT/EP2003/014738, respectively. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited documents constitutes prior art against the pending application.

Copies of these references are submitted herewith along with form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

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☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d), so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the issuance of a first office but before issuance of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.

☐ The undersigned submits the following statement requesting consideration of this statement:

The undersigned hereby states:

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

☐ The fee of \$180.00 set forth in 1.17(p).

- ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee as set forth in 1.17(p), and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

In order to satisfy the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance of each item of information, applicant herewith submits a copy of the International Search Report. In addition, applicant notes with respect to any information that is not in English language as follows:

German publication No.: DE 298 13 896 describes a device using drainage channels to be installed which consist of prefabricated half shells (1,4) of the required length, preferably of the same shape and diameter as the original channels. The upper half shell (4) contains one or more openings (2,3). The openings can be cylindrical, conical, stepped, cornered or slotted and can be provided with or without an additional sealing element.

German publication No. DE 36 09 965 A1 describes a pipe, duct, culvert or building made from prefabricated sections each of which extends thereabout for less than its circumference, so that there are longitudinal joints between the adjacent sections. Adjacent sections meet, or are held spaced apart by connection blocks 7, 8. The sections have shelves or supports e.g. for cables. Sections on either side can be offset, so that circumferential joints do not extend continuously thereabout.

German publication No. DE 49997 describes a lock for a conduit tube for non accessible conduits made of clay or cement, comprising an upper part and a lower part having pipe collars, whereas the parts are pressed onto each other by means of a locking wedge or a clamp after being inserted and Searle, and whereas the parts may easily be disassembled when being connected to a conduit or being repaired, and by means of which the connection and the repair of non accessible conduits may be accomplished without impacting the existing conduits and without considerable disruption of the discharge flow.

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German publication No. DE 16617 describes a framework for an accessible conduit, the framework having a cross section which is basically identical to the cross section of the conduit, whereas the framework may be locally build up inside the conduit for supporting a newly built wall of the conduit during its curing. The framework is constructed in a way to allow the walking through from one to the other side and can easily be disassembled after curing of the wall and built up in another place.

The above-identified application discloses and claims an invention patentable over this prior art.

Entry of the references above set forth into the file of the above application is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

By: 

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Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION 107540988

Attorney's Docket No. HOFMANN-5	Applicant FRANK HOFMANN	Int. Appl. No. PCT/EP2003/014738
Int. Filing Date December 22, 2003	Group	Examiner

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date, if appropriate
	4,647,256	03-03-1987	Hahn et al.			
	5,078,430	01-07-1992	St. Onge			
	2,005,699	06-18-1935	Gottwald			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
	WO 02/38998	05-16-2002	PCT			Yes
	EP 1 256 756 A	11-13-2002	Europe			No
	DE 197 49 007 A	05-12-1999	Germany			No
	DE 199 22 813 A	08-31-2000	Germany			No
	GB 391,181	04-21-1933	Great Britain			
	GB 2 174 472 A	11-05-1986	Great Britain			
	DE 298 13 896	12-03-1998	Germany			No
	DE 36 09 965 A1	10-09-1986	Germany			No
	DE 49997	12-06-1889	Germany			No
	DE 16617	01-07-1882	Germany			No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner:	Date considered:	

*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.